Motions for reduction of total grant.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN :

49. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,38,900 for capital outlay on water supply schemes by Re. 1.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN :

50. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 4,38,900 for opital outlay on water supply schemes by Re. 1.

48. CAPITAL OUTLAY ON DRAINAGE SCHEME.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI :

58. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,24,962 for Trivandrum Drainage Scheme by Re. 1.

The question that a sum of Rs. 52,52,419 be granted under Demand VII—Public Works was then put and carried.

The grant was mde.

DEMAND VIII—ELECTRICITY AND TELEPHONE.

MR. K. P. PADMANABHA MENON : Sir, I rise to move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 23,22,578 under Demand VIII Electricity and Telephone.

Motion Nos. 1 to 4.

The following motions were not made.

(*A*) DIRECTION—*Allowances.*

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKAR:

1. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 612 for travelling allowance by Re. 1.

XXX—II. PALLIVASAL HYDRO ELECTRIC SCHEME

GROSS RECEIPTS AND WORKING EXPENSES—WORKING EXPENSES—

(*A*) DIRECTION—*Salaries.*

* MR. MURUKKUMPUZHA V. KUNJUKRISHNAN :

2. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,600 for salaries by Re. 1.

DIRECTION—*Establishment.*

MR. KAVIYOOR K. K. KOCHUKUNJU :

3. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 9,894 for establishment (permanent) under the Electrical Engineers Office by Re. 1.

DIRECTION—*Allowances.*

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI :

4. To reduce the allotment of Rs. 8,950 for travelling allowances by Re. 1.

Motion No. 5.

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY : Sir, I rise to move the following motion.

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 3,19,037 for Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme by Re. 1.

My object is to bring to the notice of the Government that the public of Thodupuzha require the extension of electricity from the Pallivasal Scheme. There are major and minor estates in that Taluk and almost all the Superintendents of these estates have told me that

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[Mr. P. V. Mathai Chemparathy.]
they will take up a considerable quantity of electricity. The public of Thodupuzha also require it. With these observations I move this motion and I hope Government will consider this matter very sympathetically.

MR. VARKALA K. MADHAVAN: Sir, I support the motion. South of Quilon, there are important places like Attingal where electric supply has not yet come. We hoped that the Pallivasal scheme would be extended up to Trivandrum but if it is not possible to extend the supply up to Trivandrum, some temporary measures may be taken to supply cheap power to places like Kadakavur. I hope Government will consider this.

MR. K. P. PADMANABHA MENON: Sir, a programme of such extensions has now been prepared for the next ten years and I am glad to inform the House that the Government have approved of that programme. The scheme has already cost Government more than one and a half crores of rupees. For this reason before we take up any extension we have to be assured that such extension will give a return sufficient to cover the cost of its maintenance in addition to meeting the overhead charges.

PRESIDENT: The member will please raise his voice.

MR. K. P. PADMANABHA MENON: There is a very strong case for the extension of the supply to Trivandrum because there is a supply system here which is already well established and all that we need is to extend the lines. But there is considerable difficulty at present in getting the necessary materials for extending the line from Kundara to Trivandrum, so that Government consider that this extension should wait. We find from experience that as far as Trivandrum is concerned the present rate of supply for domestic consumption from the existing thermal system is not a serious handicap. We are now getting about Rs. 2½ lakhs a year from Trivandrum mostly from domestic consumers and street-lights.

With regard to Thodupuzha, a survey was prepared last year from which I find that the revenue that can be expected from Thodupuzha will not be more than four per cent. which I consider is not ample. So I propose now to extend the line up to Muvattupuzha and see how far it will be paying and when it is found to be self-supporting the line can be extended from Muvattupuzha to Thodupuzha so that the capital expenditure on the Thodupuzha line alone will not be very great, and the revenue that may be had from Thodupuzha may be sufficient to meet the overhead charges on this extension.

Similarly, I have worked out a programme of capital expenditure for the extension to Trivandrum and even further south. These works will probably come up for execution by the end of 1119 when conditions are expected to be normal.

Sir, after all, the electric supply is a commercial undertaking and the capital expenditure on each extension has to be decided on an adequate return that may be expected. We shall therefore be justified in

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further commitments only if the financial aspect is satisfactory. In the case of lift irrigation, however, the supply of power may not be bringing in an adequate return. But the advantages that would result to the ryots from such an irrigation will outweigh the loss that Government might incur. A special committee has been appointed for the purpose and the scope of that committee's work is proposed to be extended.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: What is the jurisdiction of the committee that has been appointed recently?

PRESIDENT: That committee is only for the purpose of investigating the possibilities of lift irrigation.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know from the Electrical Engineer whether the possibilities of lift irrigation in Chengannur has been enquired into?

K. P. PADMANABHA MENON: No, Sir. The result of the investigations in Kunnathunad will form the basis for investigations in other taluks. The data that is gathered in the course of such investigation may be useful for deciding whether the extension of the supply of electricity to other taluks will be justified.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: May I know whether electric power has been extended up to Palai?

MR. K. P. PADMANABHA MENON: No, Sir.

This was the subject of detailed investigation by the commercial section of the Electrical Department. It is found that under present conditions, there are only one or two mills operating in that area which need power. The price of electric materials has increased by 50 to 60 per cent. on an average above the pre-war price level. The extension of the supply to Palai under these conditions with a limited demand will not be paying.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether the honourable member has received signed representations from respectable citizens of Chengannur for extending the electric power to that place?

MR. K. P. PADMANABHA MENON: Yes, Sir. But there is not a single application for lift irrigation purposes.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: How is it possible to ask for extension of power for lift irrigation without knowing whether the power supply will be extended at all?

MR. K. P. PADMANABHA MENON: There must be requisition for that purpose before the extension is taken up. It is not proposed to extend the supply merely for the requirements of domestic consumption.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know what has been done with regard to the representation for the supply of power for domestic purposes?

MR. K. P. PADMANABHA MENON: It is not possible for the department to extend the line just for the purpose of lighting some houses or a few streets. All those will not give an adequate return. Although

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[Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon.]

I do concede that electricity is gradually becoming a necessity, it is not possible to supply it anywhere and everywhere without ensuring an adequate return for the additional capital investment.

PRESIDENT: The real trouble now is that the price of copper, iron materials, telephone instruments etc., has gone up. I do not know how many fold it has gone up and so far as telephone instruments are concerned, we cannot get them at all. Similar is the condition with regard to many electrical goods. These goods are produced in America and Sweden and to a lesser degree in Great Britain. Now, there is trouble in getting metallic goods. The cost of getting down is such that unless Government are satisfied that they can get a fairly good return it will be difficult for them to embark on these projects, just now.

MR. PULIYOOR T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: May I know whether the honourable member has taken a survey of the houses which required power consumption in Chengannur?

MR. K. P. PADMANABHA MENON: Yes, Sir.

MR. P. V. MATHAI CHEMPARATHY: I do not press the motion and I beg leave of the House to withdraw it.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Motion No. 6.

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: Sir, I move:—

To reduce the allotment of Rs. 2,00,000 for the Trivandrum Telephone and Trunk Telephone by Re. 1.

My object is to discuss the necessity of opening a Public Call Office at Chengannur. During the last Budget session of the House, in answer to an interpellation the Chief Secretary on behalf of Government answered that a public call office would be opened at Chengannur in the near future. We have been expecting this for a long time and I am not aware of any step having been taken in this direction so far. Sir, from the answer given to an interpellation two days back it is seen that even in places where the number of calls during the past one year was only 15, or in some cases 27, and the total income derived therefrom was between Rs. 7 to Rs. 10, public call offices have been established.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I ask the member, is it not a fact that such places are in the main trunk line where there is no necessity for incurring any extra expenditure towards the opening of such offices?

MR. T. P. VELAYUDHAN PILLAI: As for that matter, Perurkadai, a place not on the main line gets a call office. That is an instance in point. Further, the amount realised from that office was only nominal.

Hence, my demand is a most legitimate one in view of the many public offices and other institutions in Chengannur. I have already stated the number of institutions there in connection with another motion

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and I do not propose to take up the time of the House by repeating them. Therefore, in consideration of the growing importance of Chengannur and in view of the existence of several Government institutions etc., it is only just and proper on my part, as a representative of that place, to request that Government may be pleased to take early steps for the establishment of a public call office at Chengannur. With these observations, I commend my motion for the acceptance of the House.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : ഈ രാജ്യത്തിന്റെ പ്രധാനപ്പെട്ട പട്ടണങ്ങളിൽ എല്ലാം പബ്ളിക്ക് കാൾ ആഫീസ് സ്ഥാപിക്കണമെന്നുള്ള അഭിപ്രായത്തോട് ഞാൻ അനുകൂലിക്കുന്നു. പെരുമ്പാവൂർ, പറവൂർ, മൂവാറ്റുപുഴ ഈ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ പബ്ളിക്ക കാൾ ആഫീസ് വയ്ക്കണമെന്നു കഴിഞ്ഞ തവണ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടപ്പോൾ അനുകൂലമായ ഒരു മറുപടിയാണ് കിട്ടിയതു്. പെരുമ്പാവൂരിൽ ഒരു ഫസ്റ്റ് ക്ലാസ്സ് മജിസ്ട്രേട്ട കോടതിയുണ്ട്. പറവൂരിൽ സെഷൻസ് കോടതിയുണ്ട്. ഈ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ പബ്ളിക്ക് കാൾ ആഫീസ് വച്ചാൽ ഗവർമ്മെൻറിനു തന്നെ ഈ സ്ഥലവുമായിട്ട് ഇടപാടുകൾ നടത്താൻ സൌകര്യമുണ്ട്. കച്ചവടത്തിന്റെ പ്രാധാന്യവും ജനബാഹുല്യത്തിന്റെ കൂടുതലുംകൊണ്ട് പറവൂരും പെരുമ്പാവൂരും മൂവാറ്റുപുഴയെ അപേക്ഷിച്ചു കൂടുതൽ പ്രാധാന്യം അർഹിക്കുന്നു. ഗവർമ്മെൻറു ഇക്കാര്യത്തിൽ വേണ്ട ശ്രദ്ധ പതിപ്പിക്കുന്നില്ല എന്നാണു എനിക്കു തോന്നുന്നതു. അതുകൊണ്ടു ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവർമ്മെൻറും എലക്ട്രിക്കൽ എഞ്ചിനീയർ അവർകളും ഈ കാര്യത്തിൽ വേണ്ട ശ്രദ്ധപതിപ്പിക്കണമെന്നു അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ടു ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI : മെമ്പറുടെ അഭിപ്രായം ഗവർമ്മെൻറും കോടതികളുമായിട്ട് ടെലഫോൺമുഖാന്തിരം അങ്ങോട്ടുമിങ്ങോട്ടും സംസാരിക്കുന്നതിനു മാത്രമാണു പബ്ലിക്കുകാൾ ആഫീസുഎന്നാണോ?

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN : ഗവർമ്മെൻറിനും കോടതികൾക്കും മാത്രമായിട്ടല്ല.

MR. PADIYARA JOSEPH KUNJU : പെരുമ്പാവൂരിൽ ഒരു പബ്ളിക്ക കാൾ ആഫിസു തുറന്നാൽ ചിലവിനേക്കാൾ കൂടുതൽ വരവുണ്ടാകുമെന്നാണോ മെമ്പറുടെ അഭിപ്രായം ?

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: നിശ്ചയമായും കൂടുതൽ വരവുണ്ടാകും.

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MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: Sir, following the example of my friend Mr. T. P. Velayudhan Pillai, I have very great pleasure to bring to the notice of Government the urgent need for a telephone call office in my constituency at Palai. The people of my constituency do not want any Division Cutcherry there nor do they want the shifting of a District court to that centre. No such claim has even been brought forward by the people there. Particularly when the power supply is handy, I request that the Electrical Engineer may extend the power supply and institute a public call office at Palai. Of late, it is coming into prominence commercially.

MR. K. P. PADMANABHA MENON: I may inform the honourable member that the public call office is nearing completion there.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: I am glad for that information.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Sir, I also wish to speak a few words on this motion. My idea is to bring home to the notice of Government the necessity for opening a public call office at Changanacherry. I am surprised to find that a telephone call office is nearing completion at Palai and that Government have not understood the necessity for opening a telephone call office at an important place like Changanacherry where the people have been demanding for it from a long time.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: Is Changanacherry a more important place than Palai?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Certainly, hundred times more important. Sir, I feel it a disgrace to find that in a place where the phone is badly wanted, no attempt has been made to procure that convenience in spite of the urget demands of the people.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: May I know, is Changanacherry more important than Chengannur?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Yes in many respects it is.

MR. P. SIVARAMA PILLAI: Is there any comparison between Palai and Changanacherry?

MR. KAINIKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Absolutely no comparison. Therefore, when I heard from the Electrical Engineer that a telephone call office is already nearing completion in Palai, I am feeling that my constituency has been insulted. From the commercial point of view, it occupies a central position in Travancore. Excepting for the fact that Kottayam is the seat of the Division headquarters and contains some important offices, even Kottayam is not as important as Changanacherry. Changanacherry is a great market place. From the view point of education, it has got one of the most important first grade colleges in the State and a number of other educational institutions such as High Schools and Training Schools both in English and Malayalam. This is the most important outlet for the hill produces from the High Ranges. When the Changanacherry-Alleppey canal and road are completed its importance would leap up. In every way, Changanacherry is a most important town in North Travancore and it is regrettable that the establishment of telephone call office has not been thought of at all.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Again, Sir, even in the matter of supply of electricity, the Electrical Engineer has left the line in the middle of the town. If only the Electrical Engineer had the generosity to extend the line for two or three furlongs more, the whole town would have been lighted instead of leaving it half in darkness.

PRESIDENT: Your point is that light has come only half way.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Yes, Sir. It has only made darkness visible.

MR. M. SIVATHANU PILLAI: It there not a municipality to look to lighting arrangements?

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: How can they get light without pillars, wires and connections. This kind of regardlessness and disrespect on the part of the Electrical Department needs looking into. Therefore, I request Government that electric connection may be extended to the extremity of the town and a public call office may be immediately opened,

MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: മി. ററി. പി. വേലായുധൻപിള്ളയുടെ ഉപക്ഷേപത്തെ ഞാൻ പിൻതാങ്ങുന്നു. അതായത് ഞാൻ കഴിഞ്ഞ കൊല്ലത്തിൽ ഈ അസംബ്ളി മുൻപാകെ, പറവൂർ അഞ്ചൽ ആഫീസിൽ ഒരു പബ്ളിക്ക് കാൾ ആഫീസ് സ്ഥാപിച്ചുകിട്ടണമെന്നു പറഞ്ഞപ്പോൾ അത് ഗവർമ്മെൻറിന്റെ ആലോചനയിൽ ഇരിക്കുകയാണെന്ന മറുപടി കിട്ടി. അവിടെ ഇപ്പോൾ ഒരു മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി, ജില്ലാക്കോടതി, രജിസ്റ്റർകച്ചേരി, അസിസ്റ്റൻറ് എക്സൈസ് കമ്മീഷണർ ആഫീസ് മുതലായ ആഫീസുകൾ ഉള്ള ഒരു സ്ഥലമാണ്. ഇങ്ങനെയുള്ള സ്ഥലത്തു ഒരു പബ്ളിക്ക് കാൾ ആഫീസു സ്ഥാപിച്ചാൽ അതു പൊതുജനങ്ങൾക്ക് വളരെ സൌകര്യപ്രദമായിരിക്കും. ഇന്നത്തെ വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കകാലത്തു് ജനങ്ങൾക്ക് ആലുവാവരെ പോയി കാര്യങ്ങൾ സാധിക്കുവാൻ പോലും യാതൊരു നിവൃത്തിയുമില്ലായിരുന്നു. അടുത്ത കാലത്തു പെരുവാരം ക്ഷേത്രത്തിൽ ആന വിരണ്ടിട്ടു അതിനെ കൊല്ലുന്നതിനു് അനുവാദംവാങ്ങുവാൻ ആലുവായിൽ പോയാണു ഗവർമ്മെൻറിനെ അറിയിച്ചതു്. ആളുകൾ ആവശ്യങ്ങൾ പ്രമാണിച്ചു് ആലുവായിൽ ചെന്നു ഫോൺ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതായി വന്നു. പബ്ളിക്കു കാൾആഫീസു് പറവൂർ വച്ചാൽ അവിടത്തെ ആളുകൾക്ക് ഇതുപോലെയുള്ള അവസരങ്ങളിൽ വളരെ ഉപകാരപ്രദമായിരിക്കും. അവിടെ വെള്ളപ്പൊക്കകാലത്തു ആളുകൾ ആലുവായിൽ ചെന്നാണു വിവരം ഗവർമ്മെൻറിനെ ധരിപ്പിച്ചതെന്നു ഞാൻ ഇവിടെ പറഞ്ഞുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

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[Mr. A. K, Kumaran Vaidyan.]

ഇതുപോലുള്ള സന്ദർഭങ്ങളിൽ പല അവശതകളും കഷ്ടനഷ്ടങ്ങളും പറവൂർ താലൂക്കുകാർക്ക ഉണ്ടാകുന്നുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ടു ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട ഗവർമ്മെൻറു കഴിയുന്നതും വേഗത്തിൽ പറവൂർ താലൂക്കിൽ ഒരു പബ്ലിക്ക് കാര്യം ആഫീസു സ്ഥാപിച്ചു തരണമെന്നു അപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു. നിശ്ചയമായും ആലുവായിൽനിന്നും കിട്ടുന്നതിൽ കൂടുതൽ ആദായം ആ ഇനത്തിൽ കിട്ടുന്നതാണ്. ആലുവായിൽ ഉള്ള ജനങ്ങളും അവിടത്തെ സ്ഥിരതാമസക്കാരല്ല. പറവൂർ സ്ഥിരതാമസക്കാരാണ് അധികം ഉള്ളതു്.

PRESIDENT: The House will now rise and meet again the next day at the usual hour.

The House adjourned at 5 P. M.

V. S. ARUMUKHAM PILLAI,

Secretary to the Sri Mulam Assembly.

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